

Dear FCC Commissioners & Staff:

My name is Frank Rodrigue and I am the owner of Sunrise Internet Service in Lucerne Valley, California. We began business in 1997 and presently have 700 customers, most of whom live and work in Lucerne Valley, and we also do web hosting for several business customers throughout the western United States.

We offer many services that our local phone company, Verizon, does not. We have local toll-free dialup access that is not even available from Verizon.

Access from the big companies requires long distance toll charges. We provide services like free Internet training classes every month at our office.

We maintain a free community website so our local community members can have access to local information about current events and activities.

When we opened for business we started, as many ISPs did, with a stack of ordinary dial-up modems and a fistful of phone lines from Verizon. Getting new lines from Verizon was always a problem, and we frequently lost customers when our modem lines became busy because Verizon was late delivering phone lines we had ordered well in advance.

More recently we have moved on from ordinary phone lines to digital PRI's, and the second a CLEC came to town, we moved all of the business we could over to that company instead. Since then the price has gone down, but more importantly, service has improved.

Unfortunately, I can't say the same about DSL. The CLEC we work with has chosen not to enter the DSL business, and the expansion of some of the 'Data CLECs' has stopped. If we want to offer Internet access over DSL to our customers, we must do it through Verizon, and the prices Verizon has offered us make it impossible for us to compete. We are expected to pay \$40 per month for the data line to reach the customer, and turn around and compete with

Verizon, which is offering reconfigured phone lines, internet access and free \$200 modems, for \$29.95 per month (first three months) thereafter \$49.95 per month. There is no way we can offer this product without losing money, and so we have stayed out of the DSL market. Unfortunately this also means that we are losing customers, either to Verizon for DSL or to the cable company, since more and more of our customers are demanding faster access and if we can't provide it, they'll go to someone who will. If that trend continues, Sunrise Internet Services will not be around much longer.

Sincerely,

Frank Rodrigue
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